

## Statement in SUPPORT of House Bill 192

January 22, 2024

### **Chair Sumner and members of the Alaska House Labor & Commerce Committee:**

I want to thank Chair Sumner and the Committee for the opportunity to share Walmart's support of modernizing our regulated beverages laws to allow for and integration of alcoholic beverages into curbside pickup and delivery services for Alaska customers.

As a retailer with 9 stores in the state, we are greatly attuned to the customer's needs. There is strong customer demand for the convenience offered by curbside pickup and retail home delivery, which is why we greatly appreciate this Legislature's willingness to remove barriers to a business' ability to best serve its customers.

House Bill 192 would allow package stores to include alcoholic beverages in customer pick-up orders and offer these items in home delivery to customers. This is a highly convenient service for customers that plan their shopping orders ahead of time and schedule use of both services.

Across all different age demographics, curbside pick-up and delivery is wildly popular across the United States. **More than two-thirds of the country allows grocery stores to offer integrated curbside pickup and delivery orders to customers.**

This bill facilitates the ability of package stores to serve their customers by allowing alcoholic beverages to be included in curbside pick-up and delivery orders. Providing the capability for consumers to order ahead of time increases convenience and accessibility while enhancing a store's ability to offer the services that customers want and need. The convenience of curbside pick-up and delivery also greatly benefits busy families and individuals who may experience challenges with in-store shopping.

**Walmart has a proud history of being a responsible retailer, especially when it comes to alcohol sales.**

**Adding Alaska to the list of states that allow curbside pickup and delivery of alcohol would support local, brick and mortar businesses, local jobs within stores, and delivery-related work. It enhances overall customer convenience.**

Supporting HB 192 will offer added convenience, improve customer satisfaction, and provide customers with greater access to local and world class products. Consumers resume the ease and straightforward ability to complete their full order at one time -- saving time, money, and hassle.



Thank you for your time and consideration of these public comments. If committee members have any questions in regard to Walmart operations on this regulated product and our Online Pickup and Delivery services, please do not hesitate to reach out for additional information or assistance. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Deborah Herron  
Director, Public Affairs and State and Local Government Relations  
Walmart Inc.